

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 1-2, please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1 line 29, as follows:

Certain classes of chemically defined valency platforms, methods for their preparation, conjugates comprising them, and methods for the preparation of such conjugates, have been described in U.S. Patents Nos. 5,162,515; 5,391,785; 5,276,013; 5,786,512; 5,726,329; 5,268,454; 5,552,391; 5,606,047; and 5,663,395. Valency platform molecules comprising carbamate linkages are described in U.S. ~~Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/111,641; U.S. Serial No. 09/457,607, filed December 8, 1999~~ Patent No. 6,458,953; and WO 00/34231. Valency platform molecules comprising aminoxy groups are described in U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/138,260, filed June 8, 1999; and PCT/US00/15968.